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The New Prophecy

[image]

Four born in their elements will come.

Named after them they'll rise to greatness, tearing down the world as we know it,

And turn our lives into something new.

A/N- The kitten is a warrior from StarClan.

Cats and Their Clans

Thunder Clan

Bramblestar- leader

Squirrelfight- deputy

Leafpool & Jayfeather- medicine cats

Warriors

Graystripe

Dustpelt

Sandstorm

Brackenfur

Cloudtail

Brightheart

Millie

Thornclaw

Spiderleg

Birchfall

Whitewing

Berrynose

Hazeltail

Mousewhisker

Cinderheart

Lionblaze

Foxleap- Cherrypaw

Icecloud

Toadstep

Rosepetal- Molepaw

Brairlight

Blossomfall

Bumblestripe

Dovewing

Ivypool

Queens

Sorreltail (deceased)- Lilykit, Seedkit

Daisy

Poppyfrost

Elders

Purdy

Shadowclan

Blackstar-leader

Rowanclaw-deputy

Littlecloud-medicine cat

Warriors

Smokefoot

Toadfoot

Applefur

Crowfrost

Ratscar

Snowbird

Tawnypelt

Olivenose

Owlclaw

Shrewfoot

Scorchfur

Tigerheart

Dawnpelt

Pinenose

Ferretclaw

Starlingwing

Queens

Kinkfur

Ivytail

Elders

Tallpoppy

Snaketail

Whitewater

Windclan

Onestar-leader

Ashfoot-deputy

Kestrelflight-medicine cat

Warriors

Crowfeather

Owlwhisker

Whitetail

Nightcloud

Gorsetail

Weaselfur

Harespring

Leaftail

Emberfoot

Heathertail

Sedgewhisker

Swallowtail

Sunstrike

Whiskernose

Boulderfur

Furzepelt

Elders

Webfoot

Tornear

Riverclan

Mistystar-leader

Reedwhisker-deputy

Mothwing-medicine cat- Willowshine

Warriors

Graymist

Mintfur

Icewing

Minnowtail

Pebblefoot

Mallownose

Robinwing

Petalnose

Mossyfoot

Hollowflight

Troutstream

Rushtail

Queens

Duskfur- Podkit, Curlkit

Mosspelt

Elders

Dapplenose

Pouncetail

Rouges

Breezepelt

Chapter 1

[image]

Brambleclaw followed Jayfeather up the hill as he led them to the Moonpool, the other clans had collected their cats and went home to deal with any of the warriors that had betray them. When they reached the mouth of the cave Jayfeather let him take the lead down the paw-dappled path, at the bottom was a pool with the moon's light reflecting in its surface.

"Lay down and take a drink I'll be waiting for you went you awake." Jayfeather told him.

Brambleclaw did as he was told and soon felt himself slip into a swirling mass of stars. When he opened his eyes again star furred cats stood in front of him, Firestar stood among them near the front of the crowd.

"Congratulations Brambleclaw, you have served your clan well and now are here to receive your nine lives." The voice seemed to come from everywhere at once.

"Well done my son." Goldenflower purred as she walked up to him. "With this life I give you forgiveness, use it well in times that require it."

Brambleclaw felt like a war was raging inside of himself but he couldn't move or yowl in pain, his mother took her nose off his head and walked away. The next cat to approach was a small black kit, Brambleclaw had to bend his head down so the young kit could reach his head.

"I'm your half brother Tadpole, and with this life I give you curiosity, use it to expand your knowledge." Brambleclaw felt his pelt itch as memories and the urge to run far and wide to find answers overcame him.

He panted and ruffled his fur as Hollyleaf walked up to him.

“With this life I give you sacrifice, use it when the time comes to save innocent lives.” He was prepared for the creeping feeling but instead was racked with pain as he received his third life.

“With this life I give you endurance, use it well so you can always help your clan.” Sorreltail said as she gave him his next life.

Brambleclaw didn’t even have time to catch his breath before Flametail walked up to him, “With this life I give you truth, use it in times of trouble when you need to find it.”

The next cat to come up to him was a black and white cat he recognized as Swiftpaw. “With this life I give you courage, use it to defend your clan well when times get rough.”

The life made Brambleclaw feel weak and left him trembling as he watched the apprentice pad away to the group of cats before getting replaced by Feathertail.

“With this life I give you love, use it well to protect your clan as if they were your kits.” He flinched as the life made him feel like he was getting burned alive.

“I give you the life of adventure, use this life to lead an interesting life.” Snowkit mewed as he gave Brambleclaw his eighth life.

There was a pause as the kit walked back to the group and Firestar came forward to greet him. “With this life I give you loyalty, use it to always stay true to what you know to be right.” After Brambleclaw finished receiving his last life Firestar continued, “I hail you by your new name, Bramblestar Your old life is no more. You have now received the nine lives of a leader, and Starclan grants you guardianship of Thunderclan. Defend it well; care for the young and old; honor your ancestors and the traditions of the warrior code; live each life with pride and dignity.”

“Thank you.” Bramblestar mewed once he found his voice.

“Bramblestar, Bramblestar, Bramblestar!” The Starclan cats yowled his new name to the stars above.

As the cats left in a swirl of stars the scenery changed so they

were now floating above the lake, only a small orange and black kit remained.

"Who are you?" Bramblestar asked in confusion.

"I am a kit that's not from Starclan nor am I from the Tribe of Rushing Water's ancestors." The kitten replied. "You may call me Eclipseshadow."

"Why haven't you appeared before? And why are you appearing now?"

"Change is coming Bramblestar… just remember it will get worse before getting better."

"How could it get worse? Wasn't fighting the Dark Forest warriors bad enough?" But he didn't receive an answer, Eclipseshadow had faded away and Bramblestar jerked awake by the side of the Moonpool.

Chapter 2

When they got back to the camp Bramblestar wanted nothing more than to go to sleep but Jayfeather nudged him towards the Highledge.

"You might've announced Squirrelflight as your deputy to the clan but you need to do the official ceremony first."

"I know but I have until moonhigh." Bramblestar reminded him.

"Better to get it done now than wait." Jayfeather said. "You never know what evil the future might bring."

Bramblestar watched his foster son pad away towards the medicine cat's den, his pelt ruffled a bit at his words and wondered if he'd seen a sign from Starclan while they were at the moonpool. Shaking himself he quickly made his way across the clearing and jumped up to the top of the highledge.

"Let all cat's old enough to catch their own prey gather under the Highledge for a clan meeting!" He called. Bramblestar waited patiently for the cats to get settle before continuing. "We are here to officially make Squirrelflight Thunderclan's new deputy."

The cats made a space around Squirrelflight so she could take her place at the base of the rocks.

"I say these words before Starclan, so that the spirits of our warrior ancestors can hear and approve of my choice" Bramblestar paused again. "Squirrelflight will be the new deputy of Thunderclan!"

The cats cheered her name and Bramblestar watch as they congratulated her, once most of them had left he walked over to her too. She was purring loudly in happiness and excitement.

“Bramblestar…” She trailed off.

“I know I should’ve been more understanding before.” He apologized again.

“Stupid furball, I’m just can’t believe you made me deputy.”

“You deserve it, like your sister said. And the whole clan agrees you’ll make a great deputy and leader one day.”

“The only problem now is I’ll always have to get up extra early!” His mate joked and they started purring.

When Jayfeather called him over Bramblestar rubbed his muzzle against hers in farewell before trotting over to the medicine cat on tired paws.

“What is it? I didn’t make the wrong choice did I?”

“No, but remember don’t share your leader ceremony with anyone.” Jayfeather dodged the reason he called his leader over.

“I know that… if that was all I think I’ll get some rest. These past few days have been torture for us all.”

“Eclipseshadow’s warning.” Was all Jayfeather replied before walking away.

Bramblestar stood there a few seconds before realizing the blind medicine cat probably got the same warning. By the next half-moon, if not before, all the medicine cats might get it. He went into his new den and laid on the bare ground, not even caring that the apprentices hadn’t been able to get new moss yet, before he dozed off he heard Squirrelflight commanding cats to help rebuild camp.

He walked through the murky fog, occasionally seeing a flash of fur in the gloom. Bramblestar didn’t like it, this place reminded him of the Dark Forest except for the fact that it lacked trees. The fog began to clear and he saw Eclipseshadow and another black and white kit with a distinctive black flame shape piece of fur between their eyes.

“Welcome Bramblestar.” The black and white kit greeted. “We

have been waiting for you to come back."

"Who are you? Why hasn't any cat ever dreamed of you before?" Bramblestar questioned.

"Because we are still to be. We are like Cinderheart. We died before our time." A grey-brown kit replied walking out of the fog, he was followed by a calico she-kit and red-brown kit.

"You're part of the prophecy aren't you." Bramblestar stated although there was a hint of uncertainty.

"Yes, but our role hasn't come yet. Of course the future isn't always certain." Eclipseshadow told him. "After all we died before our time and Starclan couldn't even be sure the four cats could hold the power of the stars in their paws, they were afraid, after all a single thing could change the entire future…"

"We are here to help guide you, without our help the clans could all die." The black and white kit mewed. "Once we are born we wont remember anything so we must help you all we can now."

"Remember, change is coming…." Eclipseshadow began to fade with the others, "Four will be born in their elements, they will be named after them and rise to greatness. Tearing down the world as we know it and turning it into something new…"

He jerked awake with the prophecy ringing in his ears, he looked around to see what had woken him and saw Dovewing's head sticking in the den. She flicked her ear in embarrassment before coming in.

"I heard you thrashing around and saying something about a prophecy…" She muttered.

"I must've been having a dream about what just happened…" Bramblestar lied and started to clean his ears. "But that's behind us now, now the clans can recover and be in peace."

Dovewing nodded before leaving the den, he followed her out a few moments later to start helping with rebuilding the camp. The warriors' den was halfway rebuilt and they had stopped

working on it to finish the nursery. Bramblestar grabbed a bramble stem and started to drag it across the clearing, the clan worked together as one to hunt and fix their camp to its former glory.

Chapter 3

When the half moon came around again Jayfeather met up with the other medicine cats as they walked to the moonpool, he listened as the others shared tongues about how things were at their camp until they reached the tunnel that lead to where they'd speak with their ancestors. After lying down by the pool's edge they lapped at the water and fell into their dreams.

Jayfeather woke up in the forest and was greeted by Yellowfang, Hollyleaf, and Firestar. They stood up when they saw him but didn't speak; he followed them as they headed towards the streams where they found Willowshine speaking with Mudfur .

"Follow us, we need to meet with the other clan's medicine cats!" Firestar called out.

They followed them as they ran towards the moors, they found Kestrelflight walking through the long grass with Barkface, and they looked up like they'd been expecting them.

"Where are you guys going?" Kestrelflight asked.

"To find Littlecloud and Flametail." Mudfur answered.

They started running once again and found Flametail sitting beside Littlecloud waiting for them. They stood up and went to the center of Starclan's territory.

"We don't have much time before the sun rises…" Hollyleaf said.

"What do you all have to tell us?" Willowshine asked.

"There is a new dawn coming for the clans, but before things can get better, they must get worse." Flametail said.

"Four will be born in their respected elements and shall be named after them." Yellowfang continued.

“They will rise to greatness, and tear down the world as we know it.” Mudfur warned.

“And turn our lives into something new.” Barkface finished.

“Wait we don’t understand!” Littlecloud cried out as the star furred cats faded from view.

Jayfeather woke up and saw darkness, but realized it wasn’t the eternal darkness of being blind but the cold creeping darkness of evil. He turned in a circle and tried to make out the faint outline of darker shadows that flittered in and out of sight. Then there was a rasping voice behind him and he turned to see Thistleclaw emerge from the darkness.

“Stay back!” Jayfeather spat.

“Relax you pathetic fleabag, I just came to give you a message.” Thistleclaw purred, “Breezepelt might’ve been exiled but you’ll see him again. And this time will make sure to kill you.”

“Why would you tell me this?”

“Because, I want to see him dead for being too dumb to know how to kill. We taught him everything and he still managed to mess up!”

“But he was still loyal to you.”

“He will become stronger when Lionblaze kills him to protect his kits.” Thistleclaw faded back into the gloom his last words ringing in Jayfeather’s ears.

He woke up with the other medicine cats surrounding him and he could sense their worry. He quickly stood up and shook out his fur before leading them back up to the entrance.

“Jayfeather is everything okay? You didn’t wake up for awhile.” Kestrelflight said.

“Everything’s fine, let’s just go home.” Jayfeather mumbled.

They separated and walked back to their camps to tell their leaders about the prophecy they’d heard. Jayfeather slowly trudged

home though since Bramblestar had received the prophecy already, instead he tried to focus on what Thistleclaw had told him about Breezepelt, of course he didn't know how much to trust a Dark Forest cat but he had sounded truthful. A warrior running towards him disrupted his thoughts and he breathed in his brother's scent.

"Jayfeather, I have something to tell you!" Lionblaze yowled.

"Can it wait? I'm exhausted."

"Cinderheart's expecting my kits!" He burst out anyway.

"Congratulations."

"Did you know Squirrelflight is too?"

"What? She just became deputy!" Jayfeather said in outrage. "And it's leaf bare, Brightheart already has kits and now Cinderheart and Squirrelflight are! We need healthy cats to fix the camp and hunt."

"I know that but aren't you happy?" Lionblaze rounded on him and Jayfeather almost ran into him.

"Of course… I'm sorry… I just haven't had much time to sleep lately…"

They walked back to camp in silence, the cold air signaled snow was on the way, when they got to camp Lionblaze watched his brother walk over to his den to rest before walking over to Cinderheart. She purred and licked his head and he purred back.

"So what did your brother say?" She asked.

"He's happy for us of course! But he was a little worried since it's leaf bare."

"I'm sure we'll be fine, a lot of cats have kits in leaf bare."

"And the whole clan is here to help care for them."

“Lionblaze, you can talk later! Now come join our hunting patrol!” Spiderleg called from the camp entrance.

“Coming, I guess I’ll see you later.” He flicked his mate’s ear with his tail before running over join the patrol.

Chapter 4

Two moons later Bramblestar led his patrol of cats to the gathering, Squirrelflight had moved to the nursery a moon before along with Cinderheart so Graystripe had taken over the deputy's duties until Squirrelflight could take over again. They made their way through the snow-covered ground until they reached the tree bridge; Bramblestar led them across while the warriors helped each other walk across without falling. He leapt up to where the other leaders were gathered and watched the cats below share tongues as they waited for Wind Clan to show up.

"You'd think the fastest clan would be the first to get here." Blackstar grumbled. "I'm freezing my fur off while I wait for them!"

"Calm down, they'll be here. Just be patient your not the only one who wants to be in their nice warm nest." Mistystar snapped.

A yowl cut off any more conversation as Onestar led his cats into the clearing; he took his place beside the other leaders and said a quick greeting before Blackstar called the gathering to order.

"Shadow Clan's camp has been restored to its original glory. Our prey is running well despite the snow and Applefur is expecting Smokefoot's kits." Blackstar reported.

Yowls of approval and congratulations swept through the cats even though it didn't appear that the two cats that were mentioned were there. Mistystar stood forward and the commotion died down so she could continue.

"River Clan has also fixed its camp and even with leaf bare approaching the rivers have kept running swiftly. Petalnose has recently moved to the nursery as well but her mate Mintfur is here tonight."

More praise was given and Mistystar stepped back so

Bramblestar could take her place.

"Thunder Clan is thriving, Squirrelflight and Cinderheart have moved to the nursery and are expected to have kits soon, so Graystripe has been filling in for her. Also we have two new warriors, Cherryleaf and Moleclaw."

The clans cheered the warriors' names as they looked at their paws in embarrassment. Onestar finally signaled for them to be quiet so he could say his report and they could go home.

"We also have a new queen, Swallowtail, other than that the prey is still running well."

The leaders climbed down from the branches of the tree and joined their deputies as they rounded up their clans to go home, Bramblestar led them across the bridge again and finally made it back to camp. When they got there the remaining cats were circled around the nursery while Leafpool and Jayfeather went in and out of the entrance.

"What's going on?" Bramblestar demanded.

"Squirrelflight's kits are coming early!" Lionblaze said as he ran over. "It started a little before moon high."

Bramblestar ran over to the nursery and the others backed away and walked over to their nests to give him space. He saw his mate panting with two kits lying beside her and wet moss by her muzzle.

"She's almost done, just one more." Leafpool assured him. "You should wait outside, or get her more moss."

He nodded and ran out into the forest with the small bundle of moss.

Chapter 5

The next sunrise the clan woke up heavy hail falling from the sky with black clouds covering the sky, casting the land into a shadow, the wind was blowing hard and the tree branches snapped with the force.

"Graystripe, Sandstorm get Purdy to safety and help Leafpool and Jayfeather get out!" Bramblestar ordered. "Lionblaze, help Daisy and the queens with their kits. Stay together and head for the abandoned twoleg's nest!"

Bramblestar watched his clan make its way out of the camp, the queens and younger warriors went out first while Leafpool and Jayfeather checked the dens on their way out. He followed them as the last cats went out and ran with them through the hailstorm until they reached the falling den. They looked at him as he made his way in and sat around him.

"Is everyone here?" Bramblestar asked.

"Yes, we checked all the dens." Dustpelt answered.

"Check again, if a cat's lost out there they could get killed in this weather."

They sorted themselves into their den groups and Graystripe went around checking to make sure they were there. Bramblestar sat down and began to relax when he saw Squirrelflight with the kits but noticed she had a worried look on her face as she counted them.

"Bramblestar! One of the kits is missing!" She yowled.

"What, which one?"

"Stormkit!"

"Stay calm, I'll send some warriors out to find her." He

assured her. “Dovewing, Lionblaze, Spiderleg; follow me.”

He led the way back into the storm and they were once again being pelted with the falling ice. They ran back to the camp and re-searched the dens but once again couldn’t find anything.

“Can you hear her?” He asked Dovewing.

“I tried to already, the storm’s too loud.” She replied.

Bramblestar sighed and ran back into the forest, they retraced their steps back to the twoleg nest. Squirelflight jumped up hopefully and Tigerkit mewed in protest as she woke him up.

“Did you find her?” She asked.

“No… I’m sorry.” Bramblestar lowered his head in defeat.

The clan was silent, unsure how to respond to their grieving leader and deputy. Tigerkit quieted as well and pressed his body into his mother’s fur as he tried to comfort her. Eventually they settled down to rest, they couldn’t hunt since all the prey that remained would be hiding in their dens, they kept the kits and queens where it was more sheltered, Brairlight and Thornclaw were keeping watch in case Stormkit found her way here and to keep any other kits from getting lost if they decided to go explore the forest.

The storm lasted for seven sunrises and now the clan was hungry, freezing from the ice that had started to form, and Jayfeather had told Bramblestar there were a few warriors starting to cough. But this time when they woke up they were met with silence, no hail pounding the ground, no branches creaking or snapping off, not even the dark clouds were there. Now dawn light filtered through the remaining branches, Bramblestar led his clan back into the camp, it was mostly undamaged but branches were scattered everywhere.

“Brackenfur, I’m putting you in charge of clean up. Whitewing take some warriors out to hunt; Toadstep, Blossomfall, you’re coming with me.” Brambleclaw ordered.

“Where are we going?” Toadstep asked.

“To find my daughter, I don’t care what it takes I won’t believe she’s dead until I see a body.”

“No need.” Jayfeather said as he padded up to them. “Dovewing used her power once the storm ended, she’s in that small crevice up there.”

“Are you saying she climbed the walls of camp, in a storm like that?” He asked in disbelief.

“Apparently, but we need to help her down.”

They got Stormkit down and Jayfeather assessed her to make sure she was okay. Later after the camp was cleaned up again and they had eaten what little prey they could catch; Bramblestar flopped down in his nest and fell asleep.

“They have come…” A voice echoed.

“Who have come?” Bramblestar asked, he whipped his head around but couldn’t see any thing except for thick fog.

“They have come…” The voice repeated.

“Who have?” He yowled back.

“You know who… they have come…”

Chapter 6

Bramblestar ran over to the medicine cats' den and prodded Jayfeather and Leafpool awake with his paw. Leafpool shot up and looked around quickly before noticing Bramblestar and relaxing.

"What is it? Do you know it's not even late enough for the dawn patrol to go out?" Jayfeather grumbled.

"I had a dream… I don't know what it means. I was hoping you could help." Bramblestar said.

"Was it about the prophecy?" Leafpool yawned.

"I think so. But I couldn't see any cats, there was fog and someone saying 'they have come.'"

"I think its time for us to figure out what the prophecy actually means. Obviously the dream you had last night means that the cats in the prophecy are here now. But we just need to figure out what that means for the rest of us." Jayfeather explained.

"Tell me if you think of anything." Bramblestar replied before going over to the meager pile of fresh kill and taking a piece to the nursery.

Graystripe appeared out of the warriors' den followed by the cats that were in the dawn patrol. They left and Graystripe lead a hunting party into the forest a few seconds later, Jayfeather sighed and continued taking stock of the herbs, they'd need more before all of the plants died. Leafpool was collecting some of the more important herbs for coughing or wounds, they didn't expect any attacks but it was always best to be prepared. As he worked Jayfeather thought about the first part of the prophecy; 'Four born in their elements will come.'

Well they have come. Jayfeather thought. *'Named after them they'll rise to greatness.'*

He couldn't figure that one out, all they knew was that there were four kits born in their elements, which could mean the different clans, but what about named after them? He sighed in frustration and focused on his work again. Suddenly he thought of something, if it was a kit named after an element then it could be Stormkit, she had been born around the time of the storm but Snowkit was also named after something that could be considered an element. Leafpool came back and sat down the meager amount of herbs she had found.

"I couldn't figure anything new out." She told him.

"I think I might know who it could be." He told her, "It's ether Snowkit or Stormkit. They both are named after elements."

"Stormkit; she has to be, she was born the night before the storm." Leafpool confirmed. "We better tell Bramblestar."

"Not until we figure out who the others are."

"…Fine. Just don't wait too long. We need to figure out what the other parts of the prophecy mean."

Bramblestar watched his kits stumble around, already their eyes had opened and they were exploring the nursery, Squirrelflight had promised to let them check out the camp later but for now they were happy to play inside. He heard the patrols returning and went back outside, the hunting patrol had a scrawny bird and a mouse but nether would be enough food. The dawn patrol didn't have anything to report and told him they were going back out to hunt.

"I'll come with you, I might be your leader but that doesn't excuse me from warrior duties." Bramblestar said.

They nodded and ran through the camp entrance, they slowed down and went into a hunting crouch. They listened closely for any sign of prey but only heard the occasional creak of a branch. Dustpelt stiffened and took of quicky, his belly low to the ground as he chased whatever he heard, he came back a moment later with a squirrel.

“It’s not much of a meal, but it’s better than nothing.” Dustpelt sighed.

They hunted until the sun was high in the sky but didn’t manage to catch anything else. They gave us since it was clear they couldn’t catch anything else and it was starting to snow again, Bramblestar went to the medicine cats’ den and saw Leafpool putting away herbs while Jayfeather helped Brairlight with her exercises.

“Did you think of anything?” He asked.

“Not yet… or at least nothing more than we knew before.” Jayfeather replied.

Brairlight gave them a confused look but went back to her exercises without questioning them. Bramblestar left and went into his den to think, a shadow fell across the opening of his den and he saw Dustpelt and Spiderleg standing at the entrance.

“What is it?” He asked.

“We were wondering… I know this isn’t a good time but… we’re getting too old to help the clan.” Spiderleg told him.

“We could wait until leaf-bare is over if you’d like.” Dustpelt added.

“I need as many warriors as possible, but as soon as the kits are ready to be apprenticed I promise you two can become elders if you still want to.” Bramblestar said.

They nodded to him in agreement before leaving the den and leaving their leader to his thoughts.

Chapter 7

Stormkit watched as her brother's tail flicked back and forth in his sleep, she gathered her hind legs behind her and pounced on it making him squeal in surprise. She purred and jumped back to avoid his paw as he tried to swat her in the muzzle. It had been three moons since the storm and their birth but already Stormkit and Tigerkit were impatient to become warriors, Cinderheart's kits were outside playing in the snowdrifts with Brightheart's kits. Squirrelflight wouldn't let Stormkit leave until her brother woke up so she had waited, in a way, she charged outside and tripped into a snowdrift making her brother laugh and her clumsiness.

"Nice face plant." He snickered. "Mother should've called you Clumsykit."

"And you should've been called Snorekit." She retorted.

"Guys come look at Manekit!" Ashkit yowled.

They ran to the side of the nursery and saw Manekit with chunks of snow in his thick neck fur and his paw caught in a dead vine. His sister Softkit was trying to help him get free but he was struggling too much.

"You have to stay still." She complained and he accidently flicked snow in her face.

"But Ashkit is making fun of me… and look now he brought the others…"

"I actually still have to find Brightheart and Sorreltail's kits." Ashkit replied before racing off again.

Before he could get far though Bramblestar leaped up onto the Highledge while the rest of the clan gathered below it, they saw Lilykit, Seedkit, Amberkit, Snowkit, and Dewkit standing in a circle of cats, their fur was smoothed while their eyes all sparked with

excitement.

"What, how come they get to be warriors?" Tigerkit hissed.

"Because they're old enough to be now unless you want to go back to the nursery be quiet." Squirrelflight scolded as she sat down beside them.

"Lilykit, Seedkit, step forward." Bramblestar commanded. "You have reached the age of six moons, and it is time for you to be apprenticed. From this day on, until you receive your warrior names, you will be known as Lilypaw and Seedpaw."

He paused and looked at the gathered cats, "Lilypaw your mentor will be Toadstep. I hope he will pass down all he knows to you. Seedpaw your mentor will be Ivypool. I hope she will pass down all her knowledge to you."

They touched noses with their mentors while the clan called them out by their new names. Bramblestar waited for them to quiet down before continuing.

"Amberkit, Snowkit, Dewkit, come here. You have reached six moons of age, and it is now time for you to be apprenticed. From this day on, until you receive your warrior names, you will be known as Amberpaw, Snowpaw, and Dewpaw." He took in another breath as the new apprentices looked around and tried to guess who their mentor would be. "Amberpaw your mentor will be Dovewing. Snowpaw your mentor will be Berrynose. Dewpaw your mentor will be Cherryleaf. I hope your mentors will pass on all their skills and knowledge to you."

Stormkit watched as her old den mates left to look around the clan's territory. A fit of coughing made her turn her head towards the warriors' den where Thornclaw was bent over trying to stop. Leafpool ran over and led him to the medicine cat den, the smell of freshly crushed herbs reached Stormkit from across the clearing. Thornclaw had been the third cat so far who was coughing like that, last moon Graystripe and Hazeltail had been forced to stay in the medicine den and Bramblestar had to make Sandstorm the new temporary deputy.

“Hey Stormkit we’re playing badger attack come on!” Softkit ran over to her, “Manekit and Tigerkit agreed to be the badgers!”

“Then we better hide in fear!” She purred back before chasing after her friend.

Jayfeather padded out of the den after giving Thornclaw some herbs to help his cough, as far as Leafpool could tell it wasn’t whitecough but it could turn into it if they weren’t careful. He heard the kits playing by the nursery as he walked out of the thorn barrier towards Riverclan, he needed to know if they had any herbs to spare, even if he didn’t want to admit Thunderclan’s weakness. He waited until a border patrol came and they led him to their camp, once there he went to Mothwing’s den to talk to her.

“Jayfeather, why are you here?” Willowshine asked.

“Is Mothwing here?”

“No, she’s collecting herbs… is something wrong?”

“I just wanted to ask for any herbs you have that could help a cough.”

“Sorry but that’s what she’s out looking for.”

“That’s okay, I didn’t really get my hopes up.”

When he walked out of the den he was tackled by small bundles of fur, he grunted and got back up as Willowshine came out after him.

“Icekit, Ripplekit! What did I tell you about looking where you’re going?” Willowshine scolded. “Where’s Splashkit?”

“He’s in the snow drift.” Icekit replied while giving her an innocent look.

“They pushed me in!” Splashkit’s muffled voice came from a nearby snow bank.

“Apologize to Jayfeather.” Their mother, Petalfur snapped as she ran over.

“Sorry…” The kits said in unison.

“It’s okay, it’ll take more than being tackled by a group of kits to hurt me.” Jayfeather muttered.

Willoshine led him back to the lakeshore but stopped him before he could leave. “I’ve been having more dreams.”

“About the prophecy?” He asked.

“No… maybe. I’m not sure; all I know is another war is coming. The dreams are full of pain filled shrieks and blood.”

“I’ll try to figure it out. If you have more before the half-moon come find me.”

Chapter 8

[image]

Breezepelt looked at the clans that resided by the lake from a hill, he'd been turned into a rogue, cast out of his clan, *and for what?* He thought, *I was trying to make the clans better.*

Now he'd finish what he started, he had been gathering loners and rogues that lived beyond the clans soon they would pay for what they did starting with Windclan and his father.

"Breezepelt…" A red-brown she cat purred. "Why don't you come back to camp?"

"Not now Crimson."

"But Claw and Lucky caught more prey."

"I'm busy planning, I can hunt later."

Breezepelt heard her walk away but didn't look back, he was looking at a Thunderclan patrol as they marked their border, there was a new cat, an apprentice by the look of him with a pure white pelt that he didn't recognize. He watched as they scented the air, there wasn't any wind so Breezepelt knew they wouldn't find him. When they moved off again he went back to the temporary camp; another part in his plan was coming together.

"Lucky, Sushi, get over hear." He commanded.

The two toms walked over and sat in front of him.

"What is it?" Lucky, the black and white one, asked.

"I told you about the clans that live on the other side of that hill right?"

"Yeah, you want revenge so?"

“I want to recruit some of the apprentices from the clans so we can have spies, I want you to find them as soon as possible and get them alone.”

“And then what?” Sushi asked as he licked his cream-colored fur, “Bring them here?”

“Yes.”

Stormkit watched as Lilypaw and Seedpaw jumped around practicing their new battle moves. She saw Tigerkit and Ashkit try to get them to show them some moves but the apprentices just laughed and said they were too young.

“I can’t believe it, one moon of becoming apprentices and they act like they’re so much better than us!” Tigerkit raged as he came back over.

“I know, just wait until I’m an apprentice! I’ll show them I can fight better even with less training.” Ashkit spat.

“Yeah, well I’m going to be the best warrior in the forest!” Manekit boasted as he joined them.

“Second best, I’m going to-” Softkit let out cough, “Be better than you!”

She started coughing again and Cinderheart ran out of the nursery, she nudged her kit towards the medicine cats’ den as more coughs wracked her daughter’s body. The others watched in silence their argument forgotten. A few sunrises ago Thornclaw had died when his whitecough had turned to greencough, Graystripe and Hazeltail weren’t getting better ether and the whole clan knew it could only be a matter of time before they passed away to Starclan as well. Millie was always pacing around outside since Leafpool and Jayfeather had told her not to go in, she would occasionally help Brairlight with her exercises but the crippled she cat didn’t seem to need help or like it when one of the kits looked at her in pity.

Lionblaze came back with his patrol and Snowpaw ran over to the others quickly, Stormkit wanted to hear what they were

talking about so she slowly padded up behind them to eavesdrop on their conversation.

"…There were tons of rogue cats sniffing around the border but we didn't meet any." Snowpaw whispered.

"Do you think they want to attack us?" Seedpaw asked.

"I don't know but if they do I'll rip off their pelts!"

"I hope we get to fight, I want to use my fighting skills in a real fight." Amberpaw growled, scoring the ground with her claws.

"I don't get why you're all making a big thing out of this, it's most likely nothing to worry about." Dewpaw yawned as he stretched his legs.

"As if, you'll see I'm right." Snowpaw snorted.

"He's right." Berrynose said. "Never just believe there isn't danger unless you get solid proof at times like this. Leaf-bare can make cats get desperate for food, which mean these rogues might try to attack."

Chapter 9

“From now on, until you receive your warrior names, you will be known as Manepaw, Ashpaw, Softpaw, Tigerpaw, and Stormpaw.” Bramblestar said. “Your mentors will be Whitewing, Brackenfur, Bumblestripe, Blossomfall, and Icecloud.”

Stormpaw ran over and touched noses with Icecloud, her body was shaking with excitement and she couldn’t wait to run around Thunderclan territory. Now though most of the cats left after the last leaf-bare had apprentices, Graystripe hadn’t made it through the cold weather but Hazeltail had pulled through. There had been more recent scent marks from the rogues and Bramblestar had ordered more patrols.

“So ready to see the territory?” Icecloud asked.

“Yeah, can we go see if anyone crossed the border?” Stormpaw ask while running towards the camp entrance.

“No we can’t! While I’m showing you around you have to listen to me otherwise you could get hurt or cross a border.”

Stormpaw waited until Icecloud caught up with her and let her lead her around the territories, they met up with the sun-high patrol as they went to their back border to check the rogue scents.

“There have been more of them here…” Dustpelt muttered.

“Take a good sniff, that’s what they smell like.” Icecloud instructed.

Stormpaw wrinkled her nose at the disgusting scent; at least Shadowclan and Windclan hadn’t smelled like carrion. They continued to follow the patrol until Stormpaw thought her paws would fall off, finally Icecloud went back to camp and let her rest, and to her surprise it was dusk already.

“Are we training tomorrow?” Stormpaw asked as she got a piece of fresh-kill.

“Yes so get some rest we’ll be learning how to hunt.”

Stormpaw saw her brother and Ashpaw walk into camp behind their mentors, when they saw her they ran over to her and sat beside her.

“Guess what!” Tigerpaw shouted, “Blossomfall already taught me some fighting moves!”

“What? That’s so unfair! Brackenfur made me walk around borders.” Ashpaw exclaimed.

“Well that’s what she said we’d be doing starting at sunrise.”

“I already saw the borders, *and* I got to smell the rogues’ scent.” Stormpaw bragged.

“Oh ready well I got into a fight with a gray one.” Seedpaw sneered as she strutted over. “Good thing they didn’t come back otherwise you’d be the one who got turned into mousemeat.”

Tigerpaw lunged at him but Stormpaw and Ashpaw pinned him to the ground until he stopped struggling. Seedpaw gave him an amused look before walking off to the den.

“You know, if you don’t want her badgering you about how flea-brain you are, you could just ask me to fight her.” Snowpaw offered.

“You’d get us all in trouble.” Ashpaw replied.

“But wouldn’t it be worth it if she got what she derserved?”

He got up and padded away to the apprentices’ den and they followed him so they could rest until their mentors came to wake them up. Stormpaw curled up next to her brother and Softpaw who must’ve come back to camp before them.

Stormpaw was prodded away and blinked a few times before Amberpaw's face came into focus. "Battle training come on."

"Battle training? Icecloud said I was going to learn how to hunt." Stormpaw gave her friend a confused look.

"There was another attack from the rogues, Bramblestar ordered us to get battle training first."

Stormpaw stretched before padding out of the den and running trough the forest after her mentor. When they got to the training hollow she saw Snowpaw, Seedpaw, Manepaw, and Ashpaw were standing there with their mentors.

"Okay everyone's here lets get started." Ivypool instructed. "First, I want you to practice the duck and twist."

"But we already know that move." Snowpaw complained.

"Well they don't so you can show them how to do it."

They gave Snowpaw room and he ducked, twisted around into a roll, and got back onto his paws. Ivypool had them spread out and their mentors watched them as they practiced the defensive move, Softpaw, Stormpaw noticed, couldn't stay on her feet and ended up on her side. Berrynose stood by her and told her what she was doing wrong and she tried again, this time only stumbling. They practiced this move until they got it down and Ivypool had Seedpaw demonstrate the front paw blow and front paw strike.

"Can we take a break? It's almost sun-high and we haven't even eaten." Manepaw whined.

"Not until you get the move right." Whitewing replied.

"All you do is claw at them!"

"But you have to be accurate and focus on where you're hitting them. You are just clumsily swinging your paws."

He glared at her but continued to practice while the others left to go back to camp.

Chapter 10

[image]

Stormpaw jumped down from the tree bridge and ran to the gathering spot on the island, tonight would be her first gathering after being an apprentice for four moons, the older apprentices were now called by their warrior names; Seedfur, Lilypelt, Amberclaw, and Dewfrost. Snowpaw had disappeared a moon before his warrior ceremony, they had tried tracking him down but rain had hindered them. Stormpaw had noticed he'd sneaked out of the camp a few times at night and would come back at dawn with fern scent hiding something underneath.

She felt someone nudge her and snapped out of her thoughts. "Huh?"

"Let's go find the other apprentices!" Tigerpaw repeated.

"They're over there." Amberclaw said as she passed them.

They ran over to a spot at the edge of the clearing and were met with scents from the other three clans. The apprentices looked up as they approached and made room for them.

"So you're the new Thunderclan apprentices, a dark black tom spoke. "I'm Darkpaw. The mottled cat over there by the half-clan Tigerheart is my sister Mottlepaw."

"I'm from Windclan, Galepaw, named after the powerful winds that came during that storm!" Galepaw, who was a gray tom; boasted.

"Ignore him, my brother can be arrogant." Another gray tom spoke. "I'm Smokepaw by the way. Our brother had to stay home."

"Well I'm Stormpaw, this is Tigerpaw, my brother. Our parents are the leader and deputy of Thunderclan."

“So you’re kitty pets.” A white-gray she-cat spoke up.

“Icepaw they aren’t kitty pets. Any cat who wants to live in a clan and is loyal is a clan cat. Look at our leader, Mistystar is a half-clan and she’s a great leader.” A gray tom with black stripes defended them.

“Quiet, the leaders are speaking!” A Shadowclan warrior snapped before turning back around.

They went silent and watched as the leaders shared their news; apparently Thunderclan wasn’t the only one who had been attacked by the rogues. In Windclan Nightcloud and Heathertail had apparently left unexpectedly and they couldn’t figure out where they went. After the gathering was over they ran back to their camp only to find the ground with clumps of fur and the cats standing around a body.

“Softpaw!” Cinderheart cried as she ran over to her lifeless kit.

“What happened?” Bramblestar demanded.

“It was Breezepelt! He’s leading a group of rogues he’s calling Eclipseclan!” Birchfall spat. “Seedfur left with them! We had a traitor in our midst!”

“Who killed my kit?” Lionblaze interrupted any other rant Birchfall could’ve made.

“Breezepelt’s son… I think called Twistedheart.”

“Is anyone else hurt?” Squirrelflight asked as the other cats who had been at the gathering learned what happened.

“Purdy was killed and Daisy’s badly wounded. There were so many.” Brairlight rasped as blood rolled into her eyes.

“Any cat whose severely injured come to the medicine cats’ den immediately.” Jayfeather instructed as Leafpool searched the cats for injuries.

Bramblestar ordered the apprentices to their nests along with the younger warriors while the ones that stayed in camp told him exactly what happened; Breezepelt had lead Eclipseclan which was made up of rogues into camp. Then Seedfur had attacked them; Sandstorm had said she swore Snowpaw had been with them. Nightcloud and Heathertail were also seen within the group.

"So now they're recruiting clan cats." Brackenfur hissed. "Didn't they learn where their loyalty lied when the Dark Forest attacked?"

"It was their choice and they will be dealt with." Bramblestar replied before leaping onto the Highledge and called a meeting. "From now on if anyone sees or scents Seedfur, Snowpaw, or any cat from Eclipseclan you will track it down and tell me about it immediately. We will double patrols along our back border, if you see any clan mate acting strange you will report it to Jayfeather, Leafpool, or me!"

He went into his den and the cats hesitantly split up, Lionblaze, Cinderheart, and Softpaw's littermates stayed vigil around her body while the others went to get their wounds checked or to their nests.

(The picture is of Softpaw before she died.)

Cats and Their Clans Updated

[image]

(AN: I thought all the death and switching clans might get confusing so I posted this)

Thunder Clan

Bramblestar- leader-9, 7.5yrs

Squirrelfight- deputy, 6.5yrs

Leafpool & Jayfeather- medicine cats, 6.5yrs/ 4yrs

Warriors

Dustpelt 9yrs

Sandstorm 9yrs

Brackenfur 8yrs-Ashpaw 10/14m

Cloudtail 8yrs

Brightheart 8yrs

Millie

Spiderleg 6yrs

Whitewing 6yrs- Manepaw 10/14m

Birchfall 5.5yrs

Berrynose 5yrs

Hazeltail 5yrs

Mousewhisker 5yrs

Poppyfrost 4.5yrs

Cinderheart 4.5yrs

Lionblaze 4yrs

Foxleap 4yrs

Icecloud 5yrs- Stormpaw 10m

Toadstep 3yrs

Rosepetal 3yrs

Brairlight 3yrs

Blossomfall 3yrs-Tigerpaw 10m

Bumblestripe 3yrs

Dovewing 3yrs

Ivypool 3yrs

Cherryleaf 2yrs

Moleclaw 2yrs

Lilypelt 1yrs

Dewfrost 1yrs

Amberclaw 1yrs

Queens

Daisy

Elders **Shadowclan**

Blackstar-leader-3, 8.5yrs

Rowanclaw-deputy, 6.5yrs

Littlecloud-medicine cat 7yrs

Warriors

Smokefoot 8yrs

Toadfoot 8yrs- Sparrowpaw 10m

Applefur 8yrs

Crowfrost 8yrs

Ratscar 7.5yrs- Dewpaw 10m

Snowbird 7.5yrs

Tawnypelt 7.5 yrs

Olivenose 4yrs- Mottlepaw 10m

Owlclaw 4yrs

Shrewfoot 4yrs

Scorchfur 4yrs

Tigerheart 3.5yrs-Darkpaw 10m

Dawnpelt 3.5yrs

Pinenose 3yrs

Ferretclaw 3yrs- Mistpaw 10m

Starlingwing 3yrs

Kinkfur 6yrs

Ivytail 6yrs

Queens

Elders

Tallpoppy 9yrs

Snaketail 10yrs

Whitewater 9yrs

Windclan

Onestar-leader 8yrs

Ashfoot-deputy 8yrs

Kestrelflight-medicine cat 5yrs

Warriors

Crowfeather 6yrs- Smokepaw 10m

Owlwhisker 6yrs

Whitetail 6yrs

Gorsetail 6yrs

Weaselfur 6yrs

Harespring 5yrs- Greypaw 10m

Leaftail 5yrs

Emberfoot 5yrs

Sedgewhisker 4yrs

Swallowtail 4yrs

Sunstrike 4.5yrs- Galepaw 10m

Whiskernose 4yrs

Boulderfur 3yrs

Furzepelt 3yrs

Elders

Webfoot 8.5yrs

Tornear 12yrs

Riverclan

Mistystar-leader-9, 8yrs

Reedwhisker-deputy 6yrs

Mothwing-medicine cat- Willowshine, 6.5yrs/ 5yrs

Warriors

Graymist 6yrs

Mosspelt 6yrs

Mintfur 5yrs

Icewing 5yrs

Minnowtail 5yrs- Ripplepaw 10m

Pebblefoot 5yrs

Duskfur 5yrs

Mallownose 4yrs

Robinwing 4yrs

Petalfur 4yrs

Mossyfoot 4yrs

Hollowflight 4yrs- Splashpaw 10m

Troutstream 4yrs

Rushtail 4yrs- Icepaw 10m

Podfur 1yrs

Curlfang 1yrs

Queens

Elders

Dapplenose 5yrs

Pouncetail 5yrs

Rouges (*Eclipseclan)*

Leader- Breezepelt 4yrs

Deputy- Crimson 3.5yrs-f

Nightcloud 6yrs

Heathertail 5yrs

Lucky 3yrs-m

Sushi 3yrs-m

Claw 3yrs-m

Star 2.5yrs-f

Puddle 2yrs-f **(Puddle, Rain, and Cloudy are littermates.)**

Rain 2yrs-f

Cloudy 2yrs-f

Sunny 1.5yrs-m

Whiskers 1.5yrs-f

Frost 1.5yrs-f

Bubbles 1.5yrs-m

Seedfur 1yrs

Snowpaw 1yrs(18m)

Scarlet 1yrs-f **(Scarlet, Warp, and Twistedheart are Breezepelt and Crimson's kits.)**

Warp 1yrs-m

Twistedheart 1yrs-m

Dewpaw 10m

Splashpaw 10m

Leaf 6m-m **(Leaf and Badger are Claw and Star's kits.)**

Badger 6m-m

Silver 6m-m **(Silver, Patch, and Night are Lucky and Frost's kits.)**

Patch 6m-m

Night 6m-m

Chapter 11

[image]

Jayfeather walked over to Bramblestar's den with Dovewing; she had heard the apprentices at the gathering and told him about it. Immediately he had thought of the prophecy and watched the young cats talk without them noticing, they had confirmed his thoughts and he would've told his leader when they'd gotten back but the attack had made the thought go to the back of his mind.

"Bramblestar, I know the cats in the prophecy." Jayfeather whispered as he walked into the den.

"Who are they?"

"Darkpaw, Icepaw, Galepaw, and Stormpaw." Dovewing spoke. "They were all talking about being born around that time at the gathering."

"Have you had anymore dreams?"

"None. And the ones I get at the moonpool are always the same. Darkness is coming, and with it blood." Jayfeather muttered. "I can't be sure if these cats will save us from it or cause it. The prophecy only says they will change our world."

"Keep an eye on them at the gatherings."

Bramblestar dismissed them and they went back to their regular duties. Without elders to bury the two dead, Daisy and the kin of them left to bury them. If the killing and betrayals kept up Thunderclan might not survive.

"*Thunderclan might not but Stormclan will…"* Jayfeather jerked his head up and saw Eclipseshadow standing in front of him.

"Am I dreaming?" He asked.

"Jayfeather who's this cat?" Dovewing questioned.

“I am Eclipseshadow. I am older than even rock was, I showed myself because of the prophecy these cats will bring.” She mewed. *“And you aren’t dreaming. But you two are the only ones who can see me.”*

“What do you have to tell us?”

“I already told you. The old clans wont survive but the new ones will.”

“What new ones? The are only four real clans here!” Jayfeather snapped.

“They will come.”

Stormpaw was on border patrol with Tigerpaw and their mentors, Brightheart, Lionblaze, and Ivypool had also gone with them. They were following a scent trail left by the rogues along their territory, so far they hadn’t seen any sign of a cat or that they were hunting for prey.

“They must be looking for weak points.” Ivypool commented.

“What weak points? We defend this border day and night now.” Tigerpaw muttered.

“Maybe they want to tire us out so we can’t fight.” Brightheart suggested.

“Well it wont work.” Blossomfall hissed.

None of them noticed Icecloud tree lengths ahead as she raced after a fresh scent trail, or at least not until she yowled in pain. More rogues came from the bushes, some the size of new apprentices. They attacked the patrol without mercy, Icecloud ran back limping as three gray-blue she cats clawed at her flank. A silver blur made Stormpaw whirl around and she came face to face with one of the smaller cats, the silver tom hissed at her and ducked under her paw swipe. He rammed into her neck and she reared back only for a larger silver-white she-cat to pin her to the ground, Stormpaw went limp like Icecloud had taught her but the rogues kept tearing at her spine. The weight was lifted off and she looked

up to see her brother claw the she-cat in the face, blinding her, they ran off deeper into Thunderclan territory and Blossomfall chased after them.

"Go warn the camp!" Ivypool yowled to Brightheart.

The half blind cat ran off while the remaining cats in the patrol went after they seven invaders. Half way back into the trees they were ambushed, Seedfur jumped from a tree while the other rogues leapt from bushes. Stormpaw ended up fighting with her mentor against a black and white tom and a black tom. Both were the size of new apprentices but were fighting like warriors. More Thunderclan warriors arrived and the cats in Eclipseclan backed off.

"We must retreat for now!" A yellow tabbie yowled.

The other cats ran after him and the Thunderclan cats watched as they charged back into the grass and trees beyond their border.

"Someone help me carry Icecloud's body." Cloudtail ordered.

Stormpaw glanced at her mentor's limp form in shock and went over to help Dewfrost and Cloudtail carry her. When they got to camp they found Daisy's body lying in the center of camp. Cloudtail gently laid Icecloud's beside the other she-cat and padded over to Bramblestar's den.

"She died of her wounds during the night. Manepaw found her in the nursery when he went to clean out the bedding." Ashpaw told them.

As the news of the attack and Icecloud's death went around camp Dustpelt joined Spiderleg, Foxleap, and Birchfall at his daughter's body. There would be two more graves for them to dig at sunrise. Stormpaw looked up from her mentor's body as Bramblestar jumped to the highledge.

"Let all cats gather her now!" Bramblestar yowled, ignoring the usual call for a meeting. "Icecloud has been killed by

Breezepelt's group of cats. He will keep terrorizing the clans until we deal with him. But first Stormpaw, you will need a new mentor. Foxleap will finish your training."

The senior warriors followed Bramblestar into his den while the others, minus Icecloud and Daisy's kin, went back to hunting and checking the back border again. Stormpaw laid by her old mentor's body wishing she'd been able to stop the attack. She'd been fighting right beside her, how could she not have been able to save her?

(The cats in the prophecy look like the one's in the title pick... sorry if this was pointing out something obvious.)

Chapter 12

[image]

“I, Bramblestar, leader of Thunderclan, call upon my warrior ancestors to look down on these apprentices. They have trained hard to understand the ways of your noble code, and I comment them to you as warriors in their turn. Stormpaw, Tigerpaw, do you promise to uphold the warrior code and protect and defend this clan, even at the cost of your life?”

“I do.” Stormpaw and Tigerpaw replied in unison.

“Then by the power of Starclan, I give you your warrior names. Stormpaw, Tigerpaw, from this moment you will be known as Stormstreak and Tigerfang. Starclan honors your loyalty and courage, and we welcome you as full warriors of Thunderclan.” Bramblestar rested his muzzle on their heads and they licked his shoulder in respect.

“Stormstreak, Tigerfang, Stormstreak, Tigerfang…” They listened as their clan mates cheered their new names. Ashbreeze and Manefur were the first to run over to them to celebrate them all becoming warriors.

Dustpelt and Sandstorm stood in back until the other cats were gone before congratulating them, they had recently become elders although everyone else knew they could still hunt and fight easily if they had to. The new warriors took their places in the camp to guard for any intruders, they would stay silent and statue like until dawn when one of the other warriors would come and tell them they could move. The only reason not to was if someone or something was threatening the hollow. Breezepelt and the rest of his cats hadn’t attacked again but the patrol still smelled their scent and knew it was only a matter of time.

There was a rustle in the thorn barrier and the four warriors tensed up and prepared to fight but the three cats that entered smelled like shadow clan and they didn’t act hostile.

“Can you get Bramblestar?” A black and white tom asked.

“Who are you?” Ashbreeze hissed.

“Littlecloud, of Shadowclan. This is Rowanstar, our new leader and Darkheart.” The medicine cat replied.

Tigerfang nodded to Manefur and he ran off to fetch Bramblestar. The leader came running across the clearing in silence until he reached their unexpected visitors.

“What do you want?” He growled while glancing around for any other sign of intruders.

“Blackstar died in an attack by Eclipseclan… he lost the rest of his lives. So now I’m leader.” Rowanstar explained. “But we came here on our way back to camp because Littlecloud wishes to speak with your medicine cats.”

“Ashbreeze go wake them up.”

He padded away and there was a grumbling sound from the den before Jayfeather came out followed by Leafpool and Ashbreeze. When Jayfeather caught the Shadowclan cat’s scent he tensed up but kept his claws sheathed.

“Can we go to your den? I’ll leave Darkheart here.” Rowanstar mewed.

“Fine, follow me.” Bramblestar cast Stormstreak and Darkheart cautious looks, knowing it was probably something to do with the prophecy, and led the two cats to his den along with his medicine cats.

“So you have your warrior names too?” Darkheart asked once the others had left.

“At sun-down. When did you get yours?” Manefur asked.

“Sun-rise, but instead of doing this like my sister I was chosen to go to the moonpool.”

“Lucky… but what happened to Blackstar, how did he lose his last lives?” Tigerfang asked.

“Battle, those cowards Breezepelt calls a clan ganged up on him after Claw, the grayish tan one for future reference, ripped out his throat. Breezepelt and the others must have told him about leaders having nine lives.”

“They killed Softpaw.” Ashbreeze spat. “I hope you gave those crowfood eaters some scars.”

“Oh, don’t worry we did.” Darkheart twisted his head slightly. “Is it true those two kittypets that stayed here are dead? Guess they were too soft, all cats with kittypet blood are.”

“Watch who you’re saying that to!” Stormstreak growled.

“Oh that’s right you’re related to half-clans and kittypets aren’t you?”

The other Shadowclan cats walked out of the den and motioned that it was time to leave. Darkheart purred in mockery before following them, casting the four cats an evil stare before disappearing through the thorn barrier.

The next moonhigh Bramblestar led them to the gathering; Stormstreak sat by the Windclan cats and glared over at Darkheart’s pelt as he talked to Iceclaw. He looked up and gazed at her before strutting over followed by the other cat.

“Well if it isn’t the Kittypetclan.” He purred.

“That’s all your clan is filthy blood.” Icepclaw added.

“Go eat crow food fish breath!” Galerunner hissed.

“Oh look rabbit chaser’s defending a kittypet, their clans always were close.”

The other cats went silent as the leaders stood up on their tree branches and the four cats hissed at each other once more before going quiet.

Mistystar stepped forward and waited until the other cats were watching her. “Eclipseclan is getting out of hand! They have attacked our camp and killed Mallownose, Podfur, and Mosspelt. Other than that we have managed to hold them off but we know they are still planning how to attack.”

“Windclan has also been under attack from Breezepelt.” Onestar announced as he took Mistystar’s place. “Crowfeather was killed in the attack and Graycloud has left to join Eclipseclan.”

Rowanstar took his place at the end of the branch. “As you must know by now, Blackstar is dead; killed by a rogue known as claw. I have received my nine lives from Starclan and appointed Scorchfur as my deputy.”

“Thunderclan was attacked several times since the last gathering and I lost my first life.” Bramblestar lied about the life, he had actually lost two, but he knew the other clans, as well as his own didn’t need to worry about that. “Since then there have not been any more attacks. I suggest all the clans start helping each other once again to stay ahead of this new threat otherwise we all might perish.”

Muttering swept through the gathered cats as they heard what was happening and what Bramblestar had suggested. The leaders agreed to meet back here at the next fullmoon to tell them their answers.

“None of them even mentioned us becoming warriors!” Darkheart spat as he followed the other Shadowclan cats off the island.

They ran back to camp to find everything peaceful and the cats that had gone to the gathering raced to their dens to spread the news of what happened at the gathering. Stormstreak noticed somewhere still muttering about how no one was able to stop the attacks.

“So what do you think we should do? Trust the other clans or stick to ourselves?” Tigerfang asked.

“I don’t trust Shadowclan, the other clans might be good allies though.” She replied before curling up in her nest.

(Eclipseclan's symbol)

Chapter 13

“When do we finish them off?” Rain asked as Breezepelt paced in the grass.

“After they unite together, then it’ll be easier to trap them in one place.”

“What is the point of this?” Sunny’s mew was hesitant.

“Because some of those cats shouldn’t have been born!” Breezepelt spat and whirled around to face the tom.

“What about the ones that didn’t do anything to hurt you?”

“If you don’t want to fight nothing is keeping you from leaving.”

Sunny backed off before walking over to his sister, Whiskers; they bent their heads together and glanced at Breezepelt. He narrowed his eyes back at them and slid out his claws, if they thought of betraying him he would show them what would happen. Whiskers shook her head and backed away before going over to Frost and Dewpaw who were eating prey by their fresh kill pile. Sunny glared at her before going over to Sushi and mumbling something to him.

“Rain, go see what they’re talking about. I need to know if we have traitors in our clan.” Breezepelt commanded.

Rain casually walked over to the two cats and started licking his paws while eavesdropping on their conversation. After Sunny and Sushi got up to go hunting Breezepelt walked over to Rain and narrowed his eyes.

“Sunny doesn’t want to fight, he wants to run away at sundown.” Rain replied to the unspoken question.

“Tell Leaf, Night, and Scarlet to follow him… and kill him.”

“I’ll go find them.” Rain raced off to follow his leader’s orders.

By sundown they had tracked down Sunny and dragged him back to camp covered in blood. Breezepelt watched as the other cats circled the four fighting ones with the exception of Whiskers, she was in her nest trying to block out the sound of her dying brother. When Sunny was dead, Breezepelt had Bubbles and Heathertail take care of the body, and then he ordered Dewpaw and Snowpaw to clean out his nest. He knew they really weren’t apprentices anymore but it gave him satisfaction to see them grumble as they worked.

At sunrise a Shadowclan cat arrived at Thunderclan along with Iceclaw and a Windclan cat. Bramblestar went to greet them while the rest of the clan gave them cautious looks.

“Tigerheart, why is another Shadowclan cat here? And did you bring them?” Bramblestar asked as he narrowed his eyes at his nephew.

“I met up with them on the way here. RowanStar has made a decision.”

“Same with Mistystar.” Iceclaw mewed.

“And Onestar.” The Windclan cat added. “He wants to meet the other leaders at the gathering island at sunhigh to discuss the matter further. He said to only bring a warrior and your medicine cat.”

“Thank you Harespring. I will meet the leaders, as for the rest of you go back and tell your leaders about the meeting.”

They lowered their heads in respect and headed for the thorn barrier, Dovewing caught Tigerheart’s eye and they gave each other sad looks before breaking eye contact. Bramblestar told Jayfeather and Leafpool the news before going over to Lionblaze.

“You’re coming with me to meet with the other leaders at sunhigh.” He informed him.

“For what?”

“To discuss the truce.”

Bramblestar sat down in the circle of cats; the medicine cats greeted each other but otherwise were only there to keep the peace. Rowanstar stood up to address them first. “Shadowclan will make a truce as long as the other clans agree that I can command their cats while they’re on our territory.”

“Same with Windclan, although I have to suggest that we move our camps temporarily so that all the clans are together.” Onestar added.

“What, do you know how hard that would be for them?” Mistystar protested. “We could start a fight between ourselves!”

“I think Onestar has a point. We are stronger in numbers, divided we will fall.” Bramblestar reasoned.

“Where would we even stay?”

“One the island.” Jayfeather spoke up. “We can easily defend it. The only way across is the tree bridge so that means unless Eclipseclan knows how to swim we should be safe.”

“Well? That does sound like a good thought. What do you think? You hunt in your territory only but all the clans stay here.” Bramblestar said.

“I’ll agree to it as long as we can keep a patrol at camp. The elders shouldn’t be forced to leave and if those rogues realize we’re gone they could just start taking our territory.” Rowanstar stated.

“Agreed.” Onestar nodded.

“Fine. Meet back here at dawn with our clans. No one goes onto the island until all the clans are here.” Mistystar stretched as she stood up and left, followed by Reedwhisker and Mothwing.

The other leaders left with their warriors and medicine cats to tell their clans about the truce. Bramblestar knew that some of

the cats wouldn’t be happy with the decision but he was the leader and he knew this was the right choice to make, for the safety of the clans.

Chapter 14

[image]

Once the clans were gathered on the island they stayed with their own clans, the only exception was the elder, medicine cats, and leaders, they would talk about the situation and how they should approach it. The medicine cats thought they should wait until Starclan sent them a sign but the leaders agreed that they needed to train and take the fight to Eclipseclan. Hunting patrols were sent out daily along with patrols but so far Breezepelt hadn't tried to invade their territories.

"We need to attack a moonhigh." Mistystar said. "Then we have element of surprise on our side."

"Then we also can't see as well. I say we attack now before they can." Onestar argued.

"We should put it to a vote." Bramblestar meowed.

"He's right, gather your clans so we can inform them." Rowanstar replied. They separated and the leaders climbed the tree like they would during a gathering, the cats looked up at them expectantly. "Fellow clans, the time has come to decide when we attack! The leaders are putting it to a vote. If you wish to attack immediately go to the far side of the clearing, if you wish to wait until moonhigh then stay were you are!"

The gathered cats glanced at each other before splitting up. Most started to go to the far side of the clearing, they were ready for a fight even if it meant they wouldn't come back. The leaders jumped down and organized them into patrols so they could attack in waves; the patrols were made up of cats from all the clans even the elders were participating. As they made their way along the path medicine cats took to the moonpool, which was the shortest way, they started to smell Eclipseclan's scent. Growls rose in their throats and they ran faster until they reached the top of the hills, Owlwhisker who had been scouting ahead, ran back to tell them

where the camp was.

“It’s just over the ridge, the scent is recent but there doesn’t seem to be any cats there.” He told them.

“Lets go check it out, they could be hiding in the dens.” Misthaze said.

The patrol ran down the hill and into the camp, they searched the dens but couldn’t find anything. Soon the other patrol had joined them but stood there in confusion.

“I thought we were fighting. Where are Breezepelt and his rouges?” Iceclaw hissed.

“Eclipseclan, attack!” Breezepelt’s yowl rang out as his cats surrounded the clans. “You’re trapped now! You can’t escape!”

The rouges ran down the slope and attacked the clans, Stormstreak ducked as one jumped over her head and Darkheart intercepted it in mid-air. They became a clawing mass of Black and tan fur. She turned back around when she heard another cat hiss, when she turned around and saw Seedfur growling at her while Snowpaw tried to slice his claws across her eyes. Stormstreak pounced on him, she dug her claws into his spine but Seedfur grabbed the back of her neck and dragged her away. Snowpaw recovered and they teamed up to claw at her stomach. Galerunner ran headfirst into Snowpaw’s side causing him to fall over into the cat Iceclaw was fighting.

“Breezepelt! We can’t win!” Crimson yowled over the sound of battle.

“Yes we can!”

“Half of the rouges already ran off!”

Breezepelt growled and clawed at her throat, she fell to the ground as blood poured out of her throat. He stopped after realizing what he’d done and nuzzled her head as she died.

“Kill enough cats yet!” Lionblaze spat.

“Back off! I wouldn’t be doing this if you hadn’t been born!” Breezepelt hissed.

“If we weren’t born the Dark Forest would’ve killed us!”

They leapt at each other and Lionblaze pinned his half-brother to the ground, Breezepelt whithered beneath him as he tried to get free but Lionblaze was too heavy. Instead Breezepelt kicked out with his back legs and Lionblaze fell back onto the ground, he jumped onto his enemy’s stomach and started to claw at his belly, Lionblaze screeched and sank his teeth into his neck. Breezepelt ripped himself free but collapsed on the ground. When the remaining rouges of Eclipseclan saw that their leader was dead they ran, the true clan cats watched as they ran but caught Seedfur, Snowpaw, Dewpaw, Splashpaw, and Graycloud before they could.

“You have disgraced our clans!” Darkheart spat at them.

“Do you know what you did by joining them?” Iceclaw hissed, “Look, Mistystar is dead because of you!”

They glanced at them in shock and the other clan cats moved out of the way so they could see the Riverclan leader’s body, Reedwhisker was beside her grieving the loss of his mother. Around the clearing other bodies were still and lifeless.

“We didn’t think it would get this out of hand…” Splashpaw whimpered.

“Well it did.” Galerunner replied.

The remaining leaders led their clans’ home, the island was once again just a place for gatherings, they other cats were banished from clan territory and it was officially announced at the next full moon. Reedstar also announced the new Riverclan deputy, Robinwing. Otherwise it had gone back to normal clan life, until Jayfeather had another sign: *The time for the clans to fall has almost come…*

(sequel is called *Fall of the Clans)*